

## UCLA LAW REVIEW HOSTS SYMPOSIUM TO EXAMINE ROOTS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

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Hundreds of advocates, law enforcement personnel, clinicians and community members attended the UCLA Law Review Symposium, *Examining the Roots of Human Trafficking and Exploitation*, held from January 29-30, 2015, at the UCLA School of Law.

The symposium opened with a welcome from UCLA Law Dean Rachel F. Moran, who highlighted the importance of fostering discussion on trafficking and exploitation in law, policy and practice and in addressing community needs.

An esteemed group of scholars and community leaders in the fields of law, medicine, social work, sociology and public health, as well as leaders among trafficking and exploitation survivors, provided insight on historical causes, the current state and future of trafficking, and engaged in deeper questions on racial, gender and economic vulnerability to exploitation.



The Thursday morning panel, *The Roots of Violence: Indigenous Perspectives on Trafficking, Exploitation & Law*, focused on indigenous North American (Native American) populations who contend with increased risk of trafficking and exploitation. The historical context of Colonialism, placing this population in poverty with limited resources, along with present legal and social realities, was discussed and especially enlightening.

California Attorney General Kamala D. Harris served as keynote speaker on Friday morning, discussing the state's efforts to combat trafficking and bring perpetrators of these crimes to justice.

Other panels throughout the conference discussed specialized ways to treat survivors of trafficking and the difficult challenge of prosecuting those responsible.

For further information about this topic or regarding efforts within LACDMH, please email: [CSECinfo@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:CSECinfo@dmh.lacounty.gov). Also, for more facts and information, please check out the *DMH Fact Sheet(s)* online: [http://file.lacounty.gov/dmh/cms1\\_211312.pdf](http://file.lacounty.gov/dmh/cms1_211312.pdf)